

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-07 RSC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9708

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 2670

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, DA

SUBJ: EC COMMISSIONER GUNDELACH'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON

SUMMARY: IN STATEMENTS TO DANISH PRESS DURING WASHINGTON VISIT, EC COMMISSIONER GUNDELACH EXPRESSED ANXIETY BOTH OVER MTN PROSPECTS AND US ANTI-INFLATIONARY POLICY BUT EXPRESSED PLEASURE OVER MUCH GREATER OPENNESS OF US-EC DIALOGUE THAN DURING PRIOR VISIT ONE YEAR AGO. END SUMMARY.

1. IN STATEMENTS TO DANISH WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENTS, EC COMMISSIONER GUNDELACH STATED THAT DELAY OF PASSAGE OF US TRADE BILL HAD CUT ACTUAL NEGOTIATION PERIOD PRIOR TO US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS VERY SHORT, PARTICULARLY SINCE
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PROBLEMS OF FOOD AND RAW MATERIALS SUPPLY WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED. HE SAID THAT WITH ECONOMIC

RECESSION IN THE OFFING, MTN WOULD STILL BE VALUABLE AS DEFENSE AGAINST PROTECTIONISM IN AN ECONOMIC CRISIS SITUATION. GUNDELACH ADDED THAT, IN ORDER TO SAVE THE MTNS, "WE" WANT TO DEFINE A LIMITED AREA FOR NEGOTIATIONS IN 1975 AND THEN CONTINUE IN 1977 AFTER THE US ELECTIONS.

2. ON US COUNTER-INFLATIONARY POLICY, GUNDELACH AGREED THAT SOME RESTRAINT WAS NEEDED BUT WARNED AGAINST EXCESSIVE DAMPENING OF THE US ECONOMY. HE COMMENTED THAT, ALTHOUGH THE FINAL FORMATION OF US POLICY STILL AWAITED THE ECONOMIC SUMMIT, ALREADY PLANNED STRATEGY DIFFERED SOMEWHAT FROM EUROPEAN WISHES. GUNDELACH ADMITTED BEING WORRIED, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND REPORTEDLY PRAISED PRESIDENT FORD FOR DISPLAYING A GREATER WILLINGNESS TOWARD A DIALOGUE WITH EUROPE THAN HAD BEEN THE CASE PREVIOUSLY.

3. GUNDELACH SAID HE WAS MORE SATISFIED WITH HIS WASHINGTON VISIT THAN HE HAD ANTICIPATED AND WAS ESPECIALLY PLEASED WITH THE DISCUSSION OF FUNDAMENTAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. HE SAID WASHINGTON FOLLOWED AN OPEN DOOR POLICY QUITE DIFFERENT FROM WHAT HE HAD EXPERIENCED ONE YEAR AGO. HE FELT, CONSEQUENTLY, THAT IMPROVED POSSIBILITIES FOR A US-EC DIALOGUE SHOULD BE EXPLOITED. GUNDELACH EXPECTED EC REPRESENTATIVE KRAIG, WHO PARTICIPATED IN SOME OF GUNDELACH'S WASHINGTON MEETINGS, TO PLAY A PROMINENT ROLE IN THE FOLLOW UP. CROWE

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